Remarks/Arguments

The title of the specification was changed to be descriptive of the invention, as requested by the Examiner.

No new matter was added to the specification.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-12 AND 14-20 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-12 and 14-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,385,389, hereafter referred to as 'Maruyama') in view of Na et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,504,996, hereafter referred to as 'Na'). Applicants disagree.

Claim 1 claims the elements of:

"incorporating said determined parameters in said predetermined data structure into a pre-formed navigational field; and providing said encoded packetized data and said pre-formed navigational data field as an output in a second data format."

These elements are neither disclosed nor suggested in Maruyama or Na, alone or in combination.

Specifically, Claim 1 claims an element of providing "pre-formed navigational data field as an output in a second data format". The Examiner in the Final Office Action states that Na teaches this element of Claim 1 by:

"The device converts a program stream (PS) into a transport stream (TS) to transmit the data in the proper format needed by the digital TV. The conversion of a PS into a TS coverts navigational data into a different navigational data (i.e. PAT, PMT, etc.)," (see page 3, lines 9-13 of the Final Office Action)."

The Examiner, earlier in the Final Office Action, cites to Maruyama as teaching the element of Claim 1 of "incorporating the determined parameters in the predetermined data structure into a pre-formed navigation data field" by referring to Fig. 12 and the Video Manager Group of Fig. 8. Fig. 8 presents a navigation pack 86 that corresponds to video object unit 85 where the navigation pack is the navigational data for a corresponding video object unit.

In such, this navigational data from Maruyama cannot be converted into a PAT or PMT (as shown in Na) as cited by the Examiner as teaching the claimed element of providing "said pre-formed navigational data field as output in a second format". Na states that the Program Associated Table (PAT) and Program Map Table (PMT) exist as different forms of a Program Specific Information (PSI) that allows, "a receiving device to receive a transmission stream to appropriately extract audio, video, and data information corresponding to a desired program." These tables are used to identify the separate out the different audio and video packets multiplexed in a transport stream, as to reconstitute a corresponding program (see Na, col. 5, line 33 to col. 6, line 5). These tables, referred to by the Examiner from Na, are used for demultiplexing a transport stream are not the same as the navigational data of a navigation pack used for physically locating video information on a DVD as disclosed in Maruyama.

Moreover, Na does not disclose or suggest how to convert the navigational information of a navigation pack into the information in a PAT or PMT, as suggested by the Examiner. Na only discloses the operation of using such tables for demultiplexing audio and video packets, as described above.

Applicants also assert that there is a lack of suggestion in the references to combine Na with Maruyama to arrive at the claimed elements of Claim 1. Maruyama is concerned with a method of recording information unto a recording medium as a DVD. Na is directed towards an invention of "transmitting information via a network" where the "operation of the DVD player is controlled by the digital TV 240" (see Na, Abstract and col. 5, lines 7-10). Maruyama does not disclose or suggest the need for controlling a DVD player remotely through an IEEE 1394 connection via a digital television as taught in Na.

Applicants therefore submit that Claim 1 is patentable. Applicants request that the Examiner remove the rejection to this claim. Applicants submit that independent Claims 11 and 14 are patentable for the same reasons listed in connection with Claim 1, and Applicants request the removal of the rejection to these claims. Claims 2-10, 12-13, and 15-20 are patentable as these claims depend on Claims 1, 11, and 14, respectively. Applicants, request the removal of the rejection to these claims, as well.

REJECTION OF CLAIM 13 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama in view of Na and Yamauchi et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,381,398, hereafter referred to as 'Yamauchi'). Applicants disagree.

The Examiner in the Final Office Action cites to Yamauchi teaching "a disc format conversion device using a first read only data format (13 magneto optical disc) and a second recordable data format (fig. 34)," (see Final Office Action page, 7, lines 16-17). Nothing in Yamauchi discloses or suggests that the magneto optical disc is a read-only format, as stated by the Examiner.

Yamauchi discloses that the magneto optical disc cited to by the Examiner is part of a data input apparatus 13, where a digital magnetic tape apparatus is also shown as part of the data input apparatus 13 (Yamauchi, col. 10, lines 10-31). The description of the magneto optical disc does not state that the optical disc is a "first read only data format" as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicants therefore submit that Claim 13 is patentable for the arguments listed above and the arguments listed in connection with Claim 1. Applicants request that the Examiner remove the rejection to this claim.

A fee for \$420.00 is owed in connection with a two-month extension being requested in connection with the filing of this response, as indicated in the request for extension included with this paper. An additional fee for \$770.00 is owed in connection with the filing of this response as part of a Request for Continued Examination, as included with this paper. If any other fees are owed, please charge Deposit Account 07-0832.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6809, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Joel M. Fogelson

Reg. No. 43, 613

Phone (609) 734-6809

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing Inc.
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5312
December 30, 2003

Certificate of Transmission under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Hon. Commissioner for Patents at the telephone number (703) 872-9314 on December 30, 2093.

Joel M. Fogelson